



Is it **WRONG**  
to TRY to  
**Pick up** GIRLS  
IN A **DUNGEON?**

5

**KUNIEDA**

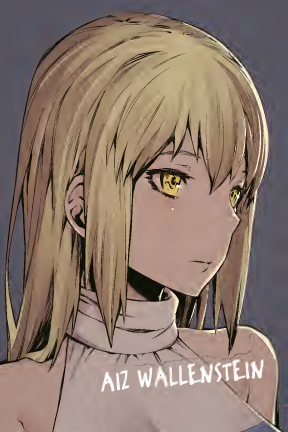
ORIGINAL STORY  
**FUJINO OMORI**

CHARACTER DESIGN  
**SUZHITO YASUDA**

Illustration: Kunieda

A detailed illustration of a young man with spiky, light purple hair and intense red eyes. He is looking slightly downwards and to the left with a serious expression. He is wearing a dark collar with a small, light-colored bell. The background is a solid dark purple. The name 'BELL CRANELL' is written in a stylized, white, blocky font at the bottom left.

BELL CRANELL



AIZ WALLENSTEIN

Is it **WRONG**  
to TRY to  
**Pick-up** GIRLS  
in a **DUNGEON**?

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STEP 31 ►► THE BOY AND THE  
TERRIBLE PRINCIPAL

GOOD  
MORN-  
GUM-  
TERR







WAIT!  
STOP  
RIGHT  
THERE!

EH?

BELL-  
KUNIT?



WAIT?  
WAIT IS SHE  
HERE?



WAIT  
THE HECK'S  
GOING ON?













*I'M  
SORRY.*



HMM...?



ACTUALLY,  
YOU'RE MY  
SAVING!

I'M THE  
ONE WHO  
WENT TOO  
FAR DOWN  
WITHOUT  
THINKING...

**N-  
NO!**

I'VE  
WANTED TO  
APOLOGIZE  
FOR A  
WHILE NOW

THE  
MINOTAUR  
I FAILED TO  
SLAY HAS  
CAUSED  
YOU SO  
MUCH  
TROUBLE  
...



...FOR  
NEVER  
ONCE  
SAID  
THANK  
YOU  
AND  
ALWAYS  
RUNNING  
AWAY...

...I'M  
THE ONE  
WHO  
SHOULD  
APOLO-  
GIZE...

I-I'M SO  
SORRY!



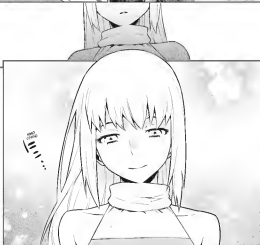
THANK  
YOU SO  
MUCH!

...YOU'VE  
SAVED  
ME  
OVER  
AND  
OVER  
AGAIN...

WAA  
WAA  
T T

WELL  
...  
UAAA...

WHAT I'M  
TRYING TO  
SAY IS...









HE'S STRONG IN  
BATTLE AND HAS  
A TREMENDOUS  
GROWTH RATE  
DESPITE HIS  
INEXPERIENCE.



—HOW DID  
HE DO IT?

...FOR  
MYSELF



I WANT TO  
KNOW THE  
SECRET  
BEHIND HIS  
GROWTH.



I CAN'T  
ASK  
HER TO DO THIS  
...  
THEN AGAIN,  
IF SHE'S  
GOING TO  
BE SO  
OBER-  
OUS...



NOT  
QUITE...  
GENER-  
OSITY—  
ISN'T  
THE  
REASON.





A black and white manga-style illustration of a boy with spiky hair bowing deeply towards a girl. The girl has long hair and is wearing a dress with a sword at her waist. She has her hand near her face in a thoughtful or surprised pose. The background is a misty, outdoor setting.

I WILL DO  
MY BEST.

...HOPEFULLY  
I CAN LIVE  
UP TO HIS  
EXPECTATIONS.



Wrote  
pick-up  
truck

STEP 32 ►► TRAINING WITH THE SWORD PRINCESS





DON'T  
WORRY  
ABOUT  
IT!

I-IT'S  
ALL  
RIGHT.

SORRY  
TO MAKE  
YOU COME  
ALL THE  
WAY OUT  
HERE...



CALL ME  
AIZ.



...AIZ

UM,  
WALLEN-  
STEIN-SAN—



SHALL  
WE  
BEGIN  
RIGHT AWAY?

I'LL BE  
LEAVING  
ON AN  
EXPOSITION  
BOOK, SO  
THERE  
ISN'T MUCH  
TIME...



...WALLEN-  
STEIN-SAN!

GOOD  
MORNING...



N-NO,  
NOT AT  
ALL!

THAT'S WHAT  
EVERYONE  
CALLS ME.  
... DOES  
IT MAKE  
YOU FEEL  
UNCOM-  
FORT-  
ABLE?



...WHAT  
SHOULD I  
DO NOW?

A-AL-  
SAN...



HOW  
ABOUT  
PRACTICE  
GAMES?

I'VE BEEN  
THINKING...  
SINCE YES-  
TERDAY...

AH...  
SU-  
SURE.



HEH?

... WHAT  
SHOULD  
YOU  
DO?









Y-  
YES...

CAN YOU  
STAND?

...THEN  
LET'S  
FIGHT.

I THINK  
THIS IS  
BEST.

I'M NOT  
AS GOOD AT  
INSTRUCTING  
AS DEVERON  
AND THE  
OTHERS...

SA  
LORD



I THINK  
IT'S  
IMPORTANT  
FOR A  
SOLO  
ADVENTUR-  
ER TO BE  
AFRAID.

!?

...  
YOU'RE  
AFRAID.

BUT  
...

I DON'T  
KNOW  
WHAT IT  
IS...

...BUT  
IF YOU  
FACE IT  
LIKE THIS,  
YOU'LL  
ONLY BE  
ABLE  
TO RUN  
AWAY.

...  
THERE'S  
SOME-  
THING  
BESIDE  
YOU'RE  
AFRAID OF.

GUH.





STEP 33 ⇨ THE SCHEME COMMENCES



Wrote  
pick-up  
truck

I DON'T  
KNOW  
WHAT IT  
IS...

...BUT  
IF YOU  
FACE IT  
LIKE THIS,  
YOU'LL  
ONLY BE  
ABLE  
TO RUN  
AWAY

GAH...

GA...







WHAHH



...SHE'S  
REALLY FAST...  
AND MORE  
THAN THAT...

I KNEW...  
I ALREADY  
KNEW,  
BUT...



CAN YOU  
STAND?

...SHE'S  
STRONG!!



DUN-  
GEON  
LEVEL  
17



IT'S BEEN  
A LONG  
TIME SINCE  
I PROMISED  
THIS  
FLOOR...



DO  
YOU FEEL  
NEARBY,  
CITYCAT?

...  
JEAL-  
OUSY,  
HUNT?



SUPPOSE  
HE BECAME  
STRONGER  
THAN YOU.  
WHAT WOULD  
YOU DO?



MY  
MIND IS  
FILLED  
WITH  
THOUGHTS  
OF THAT  
BOY.

I'VE BEEN  
IGNORING MY  
OWN FAMILY,  
EVEN YOU.



...I SEE.



THAT SPOT  
YOU'RE  
STANDING  
IN NOW...

...MIGHT  
BELONG  
TO HIM  
INSTEAD  
OF YOU.

IN TIME,  
I MIGHT EVEN  
COME TO  
TREASURE  
HIM MORE  
THAN YOU.

WHAT? NO  
JEALOUSY?

AS YOUR  
HEART  
DEIRES.



YOUR  
LOVE IS  
EQUAL  
TO ALL.

SOME MAY  
BE SPECIAL,  
BUT NO ONE  
RECEIVES  
MORE THAN  
ANOTHER.



EVEN IF  
I WERE TO  
DISAPPEAR  
FROM THIS  
PORT...

...I  
BELIEVE  
YOUR LOVE  
FOR ME  
WOULD  
NOT



...I HAVE  
SAID TOO  
MUCH.

























WHAT  
WOULD BE  
LEFT IF YOU  
LOST YOUR  
STATUS?

ADVENTURERS  
DEPEND  
TOO MUCH  
ON THEIR  
PALNA.



IT  
SEEMS  
LIKE YOU  
AREN'T  
GOOD AT  
DEFEND-  
ING.

WHEN  
YOU'RE  
ABLE TO  
READ  
AND  
SLUG-  
GISH-  
FULLY  
ANNOY  
MY AT-  
TACKS  
...I  
THINK  
YOU'LL  
BE  
ONE  
STEP  
CLOSER  
TO  
YOUR  
GOAL.

THAT'S  
WHAT...

...I WILL  
TEACH  
YOU.



CAN YOU  
STAND?



THAT'S  
RIGHT...  
EVEN IF  
IT'S JUST  
A LITTLE...



...ONE  
MORE  
TIME  
PLEASE!!

...I WANT  
TO BE CLOSER  
TO YOU—





STEP 34 ▶ PARTY PLAY



Wrote  
pick-up  
dunkers

ぴよっ

ACTU-  
ALLY, I THINK  
YOU  
LOOK  
PRETTY  
CUTE!

YOU  
DON'T LOOK  
DIFFERENT  
THAN  
USUAL...  
A FRESH  
LOOK  
MAYBE?

IT'S  
NOT  
NEED  
AT ALL,  
LILLY.

IT IS  
TRUE...  
A BIT  
TOO  
WEIRD?

R-  
REALLY  
IF?

LILLY'S  
TRYING  
TO HIDE  
FROM  
SOME  
FAMILY

SO SHE  
CHANGED  
QUITE A  
BIT...

HER TAIL 'S  
SWISHING BACK  
AND FORTH...  
I WONDER  
IF SHE'S  
DOING THAT  
UNCONSCIOUSLY

WOW—  
SO RELAXING—

YEP,  
YOU LOOK  
GOOD LIKE  
THIS.

AAAAHHH.









WAY...

...TOO...



HA HA HA...



HA HA HA...



...  
SLOW!



— YOU'RE  
NOTHING  
COMPARED  
TO ME!







IF YOU'RE  
IGNORING  
LILLY  
BECAUSE  
SHE'S TOO  
WEAK...

...HERE'S  
SOME-  
THING...

...UNEX-  
PECTED!

NIKA  
CHARGE

NIKA  
CHARGE

—PARTY  
PLAY!!













**FIREBALL!!**





WELL PONS,  
BELL-  
SAMA!

GOOD  
GOODBYE!

...

UM—  
LILLY  
HAS A  
QUES-  
TION...

...

HA  
HA...  
THIS  
AND  
THAT.

BELL-SAMA  
DIDN'T  
TAKE ANY  
DAMAGE  
FROM  
BATTLE!

WHY  
IS BELL-  
SAMA  
ALREADY  
A MISS  
BEFORE  
GOING  
INTO THE  
DUNGEON  
THREE  
DAYS?

I JUST  
DON'T  
KNOW  
WHAT  
TO...

I CAN'T TELL  
HER THAT  
I'M GETTING  
RECOVERED  
BECAUSE OF  
BELL-SAMA'S  
INTENSIVE  
TRAINING...



... LILLY ...

...YOU CAN'T  
UPGRADE  
YOUR  
STATUS  
ANYMORE,  
CAN YOU?



STATUS ...

LET'S  
GET  
THESE  
MAGIC  
STONES  
OUT  
PER-  
QUACK

BUT MY  
STATUS,  
SPECIFI-  
CALLY MY  
DEFENSE,  
IS GOING  
UP ALITTLE  
A BIT  
TERRIBLE  
FOR YOU



WHAT  
WAS  
THAT?



—IF  
YOU  
JOINED  
HESTIA  
FAMILIA ...

YOU'D  
HAVE  
TO  
CONVERT,  
BUT  
STILL...



...  
NO,

SOMA  
FAMILIA  
THINKS  
THAT  
LILLY  
IS  
DEAD.

LILLY  
WOULD  
NEED  
TO  
SEE  
SOMA-  
SAMA  
FOR  
AN  
UPGRADE,  
SO IT'S  
NOT  
POSSIBLE.



AND IT CAN'T HAPPEN RIGHT AWAY...

THERE'S NO WAY.

A LARGE AMOUNT OF MONEY IS NEEDED TO LEAVE.



...WITHOUT SOMA-SAMA'S CO-OPERATION.

PALMA CAN'T BE TRANSFERRED...



AT HALF A YEAR IS

AS PROOF, LILY HADNT UPGRADDED HER STATUS IN ALMOST HALF A YEAR.



TRUTH-FULLY, LILY'S STATUS IS A BIT WORRYING.



BUT IT'S ONLY FOR NOW.

LILY'S GOOD AT FINDING WAYS OF DEALING WITH MONSTERS.



...UNLESS THEY MEET THE GOAL.

MEMBERS OF SOMA FAMILIA CAN'T GET A STATUS UPGRADE



LILLY DECEIVED  
ANYONE  
AND  
EVERYONE

LILLY'S A  
MONSTER  
IN DIS-  
GUISE.



OTHERS  
WOULD  
IGNORE  
HER AS  
LONG AS  
SHE DIDN'T  
HAVE  
MONEY.

LILLY  
HAD TO  
SACRIFICE  
HER  
STATUS  
FOR IT TO  
WORK...

EVEN  
AFTER  
MEETING  
THE  
GUARD,  
LILLY  
DIDN'T  
WANT TO  
STAND  
OUT.  
SO THE  
MONEY  
WAS  
NEVER  
TURNED  
IN.



...THAT  
LILLY?

DOES  
BELL-SAMA  
DESPISE...



.....

From  
DROOPY  
7/27/...





IT'S HARD  
TO DESPISE  
PEOPLE  
WHO AREN'T  
HONEST  
WITH THEM-  
SELVES, I  
THINK.



SO  
I CAN'T  
DESPISE  
YOU...

...LET  
ALONE  
HATE  
YOU.

I LIKE  
WHO YOU  
ARE, LILLY.



LILLY  
KNOWS  
WHAT  
BELL-SAMA  
MEANS  
BY THAT,  
BUT...





Wrote  
pick-up  
truck



BTTER...

HEY,  
LILLY

AM I  
DEPENDING  
ON MY  
MAGIC TOO  
MUCH?



LILLY  
THINKS  
THAT'S  
WHY  
BELL-  
SAMA  
USES  
IT SO  
OFTEN

THERE'S  
NO  
SPELL...  
SO IT  
CAN BE  
USED  
RIGHT  
AWAY

FIRE-  
BOLT IS  
'SWIFT-  
STRIKE'  
MAGIC.



BELL-  
SAMA'S  
MAGIC  
IS VERY  
EASY  
TO USE  
TOO...

HHMM  
LILLY  
DOESN'T  
THINK  
IT'S A  
PROBLEM...



HOW  
IT UP  
HAPPY  
WELL

WHEN  
YOU PUT  
IT LIKE  
THAT...

12

BELL-  
GAMA'S  
NOT  
RELYING  
ON IT.  
RATHER,  
IT JUST  
BECAME  
A PART OF  
HIS MOVES.



FINAL  
BLOW  
...?



IT'S  
A WAY  
TO TURN  
THINGS  
AROUND AT  
THE LAST  
MINUTE.

MAGIC  
IS A  
TRUMP  
CARD.

USERS  
HAVE TO  
RECITE LONG  
TRIGGER  
SPELLS TO  
UNLEASH  
POWERFUL  
MAGIC, BUT  
STRONG  
ENEMIES  
CAN BE  
DEFEATED  
IN ONE  
SHOT.

SO  
...  
...MY  
MAGIC IS  
WEAK...?



IF YOU  
THINK OF  
IT THAT  
WAY, BELL-  
GAMA'S  
MAGIC  
IS VERY  
USEFUL  
...  
...BUT  
IT MIGHT  
MEAN IT  
LACKS THE  
POWER OF  
A FINAL  
BLOW.



...IS  
ALSO  
SCARED  
THAT  
MAGIC  
WITH  
A  
LONG  
TRIGGER  
SPELL.

NO  
TIME  
TO  
DIE.

AT  
THE  
VERY  
LEAST,  
LILLY  
THINKS  
THAT  
AN  
INSTANT  
FIREBOLT  
...

NO,  
THAT'S  
NOT  
IT.  
THE  
SPEED  
OF  
BELL-  
SAMA'S  
MAGIC  
CAN'T  
BE  
IGNORED  
...



BELL-  
SAMA.

FOR  
GOD'S  
SAKE,  
DON'T  
DO  
THAT.



UM...

BUT  
IT'S  
NOT  
VERY  
USEFUL  
AGAINST  
ENEMIES  
WITH  
HIGH  
DEFENSE  
...



BE  
MORE  
CONFIDENT!

LILLY...  
THANK  
YOU!



BELL-  
SAMA'S  
MAGIC  
MIGHT  
BE  
SIMPLE  
AND  
NOT  
THAT  
FLASHY  
RIGHT  
NOW...

...BUT  
IT  
WILL  
GROW  
PAST!

"MAGIC  
SKILL"  
INCREASES  
WITH  
EVERY  
USE.

AS  
DOES  
THE  
STRENGTH  
OF  
THE  
MAGIC.



STEP 35 >> SURGING CRUSADE





WHERE...  
AM I?

HAA...

.....



GAHH!?



OWIED  
AGAIN...  
HOW  
MANY  
TIMES  
NOW?

I COULDN'T  
DEFEND  
AGAINST  
ANOTHER  
ONE OF  
AIZ-SAN'S  
ATTACKS...



...OH  
YEAH.





SURE.

UM...  
THANK  
YOU SO  
MUCH  
FOR THIS  
TRAINING.



AM  
I...

...  
GETTING  
ANY  
BETTER  
AT ALL?



YOU'RE ONLY  
GETTING  
KNOCKED  
OUT BECAUSE  
I FORGET  
MY OWN  
STRENGTH...

YOU'RE  
IMPROVING  
GLADLY A  
BIT.

ENOUGH  
TO SUR-  
PRISE  
ME.

IT'S NO  
PROBLEM



...  
WHY  
DO  
YOU  
ASK?

WELL,  
I SEEM  
TO BE  
GETTING  
KNOCKED  
OUT A LOT  
LATELY...

HER  
EXPRESSION  
"WOULDN'T  
CHANGE MUCH  
THOUGH..."

AH,  
SHE  
LOOKS  
PRETTY  
DEAD-  
POINTED  
...

BUT I  
FIGURED  
OUT  
THAT'S  
HOW SHE  
LOOKS  
WHEN  
SHE'S  
SAD.



THAT  
MIGHT  
CHANGED  
AT ALL—

SHE'S  
THE  
BEAUTI-  
FUL,  
BURGLAR  
SAVING  
PRINCESS  
"VENUS."

A  
LOVELY  
FLOWER  
FOR  
OUT OF  
REACH.



...CAN I  
ASK YOU A  
QUESTION?

BUT SHE  
SEEMS  
LIKE A  
NORMAL  
GIRL...

...WHEN  
I SEE HER  
DOWN LIKE  
THIS—











ARE  
YOU...  
SLEEPY?

UM...



YOU  
HAVE TO BE  
ABLE TO SLEEP  
...AT  
ANY TIME OR  
PLACE  
IN THE  
DUNGEON

...



SO,  
UM...

ARE WE  
GOING TO SLEEP  
HERE?

YES.

SEE,  
LIKE  
THIS...



...



R-  
RIGHT!

GAAAH!

THIS  
IS TRAIN-  
ING.







—EH?  
WHOA,  
WHOA,  
WHOA  
!?











WAIT...

...JUST...



I'M  
SO GLAD  
SHE DIDN'T  
NOTICE...

WAIT...?  
S-SLEEP  
TALKING  
...?



DIDN'T NOTICE...  
WHAT AM I  
THINKING!?

GASP—



WANT  
THE  
WELL  
READ I  
ABOUT  
TO DO  
... I'D

WHAAAAAAAAH...



RESENT  
MYSELF



I'M SO  
SORRY,  
ALZ-  
BAN...



I REALLY  
AM  
SPENDING  
TIME WITH  
HER—

I REALLY AM  
RIGHT HERE  
BEHIND  
HER—



...SO,  
THIS  
ISN'T A  
DREAM.

THAT  
WORE...





ACE-  
SAN'S  
SLEEPING  
FACE—



STILL  
FEELS LIKE  
A DREAM  
THOUGH...



CURSED  
TO NEVER  
OPEN HER  
EYES UNTIL  
A HERO  
APPEARS.

A PRINCESS  
IN ETERNAL  
SLEEP—

THAT'S  
WHAT  
I SEE  
WHEN  
I LOOK  
UPON  
MY IDOL  
SLEEPING  
PEACE-  
FULLY



Wrote  
pick-up  
dunkers



WELL,  
WELL...





*PERHAPS IT'S  
TIME FOR MORE OF  
THAT FUN—*

STEP 36 >> ASSAULT





SORRY, AD-  
SAN...

MY STOMACH  
WON'T STOP  
GROWLING  
...

IT'S  
ONLY  
THE  
LUNCH  
TOO



JMOA-  
MARU-  
KUN...?

OH...

I'VE  
GOT  
A BAD  
FEELING  
ABOUT  
THIS...



CAN I ASK  
...

...WHERE  
WAS  
HEADQUARTERS?



SET UP  
THERE.

TEMA  
TOLD ME  
THERE'S  
A GOOD  
JMOA-  
MARU-  
KUN  
STAND.

NORTH  
MAIN  
STREET.







WHAT THE  
HELL ARE  
YOU DOING.  
BELL-  
KUMNNNN  
!!

W-  
WELL,  
YOU  
SEE...

THERE'S  
A REA-  
SON...

ズッ!ズッ!ズッ!

ALONG  
WITH  
THE  
KIND  
OF ALL  
PRO-  
PLET?  
EX-  
PLAIN  
YOUR-  
SELF  
THIS  
IN-  
STANT,  
BELL-  
RING!



NO ONE  
CAN LIE  
TO A  
GOD!!

EXPLAIN  
EVERY-  
THING  
NOW!

GET  
AWAY  
FROM  
HER!

NO  
EX-  
CUS-  
ES.



WE  
—  
WE JUST  
HAD-  
PEN-  
DED TO  
BUMP  
INTO  
EACH  
OTHER.



UM...  
I'M  
TEACH-  
ING HIM  
HOW TO  
FIGHT.



WELCOME  
TO THE  
NEW  
GOTH  
CITY



YOU'RE TRYING  
TO CLAIM  
MY BALL-  
KUN FOR  
YOURSELF.  
AREN'T  
YOU?  
BUT IT'S  
NOT HAP-  
PENING!

NO  
MATTER  
WHAT  
YOU  
SAY, I  
WON  
WITH  
HER  
FIRST!



WEL-  
COME-  
THINK-  
KUN,  
NEVER  
COME  
NEAR MY  
BALL-KUN  
AGAIN.

YOU  
HAVE  
YOUR  
OWN  
PLACE,  
RIGHT?  
IT  
WOULD  
BE  
BEST  
FOR  
EVERY-  
ONE  
IF—



PLEASE,  
GOD-  
DESS!

HUUUH  
??

A  
LITTLE  
BIT  
MORE  
—  
JUST  
TWO  
DAYS  
IS  
FINE!

PLEASE  
LET  
HER  
TRAIN  
ME!

SO PLEASE  
—

はっ

IT'S  
TO  
HELP  
ME GET  
STRON-  
GER  
AND  
EARN  
MORE  
MONEY  
IN THE  
FUTU-  
RE ONLY

YOU'RE  
TOO  
NAIVE.  
ME  
TOO...

ALL

.....

HMPH...

I'LL  
SAF  
THIS  
THOUGH  
—

BOO-  
DESS  
—!

...  
SERIOUSLY,  
JUST TWO  
DAYS.





OHAY...

...?

9-000-DE667

THE  
MOMENT  
YOU TRY  
ANYTHING  
ELSE  
WITH  
BILL-KUN,  
THE DEAL  
IS OFF!

SEDLONG  
HIM IS OUT  
OF THE  
QUESTION



I'M  
TAKING  
THE  
BEST OF  
THE DAY  
OFF!

LET'S  
GET  
GOING!

EH, LIMA,  
WHAT  
ABOUT  
YOUR  
PART-  
TIME  
JOB ...?



...



WELL THEN,  
I THINK I'LL  
OBSERVE  
A TRAINING  
SESSION.



...YES.

SHE  
IS A NICE  
GODDESS  
...

YOU SHOULD CALL IT QUITE NOW.

SHE'S JUST USING YOU AS A PERSONAL PUNCHING BAG.

ALL THAT HAPPENED WAS SHE BEAT YOU UP!

HEY, BELL-KUN.

WHAT IF I FALL?

NO, NO. IT'S MUCH TOO DARK!

YOU CAN LET GO OF MY HAND NOW...

UH-UM, GOOD-POSS...

THE MAGIC-STONE LAMP IS BROKEN ...?

...?

ACTUALLY, YES! IT'S PRETTY DARK.















OH...  
OH  
HO  
HO  
HOH  
!?

OH... OH



DAMN...  
MON-  
STER.



MY EYES  
CAN'T  
KEEP UP!

THEY'RE  
TOO  
FAST.



O-  
BELL-KUN,  
LET'S GET  
OUT OF  
HERE.  
WE  
DON'T  
BELONG  
ON THIS  
STAGE...

OUR  
LEVELS  
ARE  
TOO FAR  
APART!  
THAT'S  
THE  
KENKI.



AND KAKU IS  
DEFLECTING  
EVERY ATTACK  
ON THE GROUND.

THEY'RE  
DEFENDING  
ALL THE  
PLACE  
AROUND  
THEIR  
FLUORE.

THEIR  
CUTS...











A GREAT-  
SWORD—



I USED IT!

GOT  
TAKEN  
FOR A  
RIDE FOR  
A BIT  
BUT...



HERE  
I GO!

I CAN  
FIGHT  
TOO....!!

GO  
ONWARD



Wrote  
pick-up  
truck



[illegible]

WE  
DON'T  
REPORT  
THIS TO  
JURY





WHY WOULD THEY GO AFTER BELL-KUN TOO?

BUT IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.

WELL—SOMETHING—KUN, ANY IDEAS WHO WOULD ATTACK YOU?



SO WHO WERE THEY?  
ATTACKING US OUT OF NOWHERE LIKE THAT...



THEY DO?

YES, BUT RARELY OUTSIDE THE DUNGEON

AAA—BUSH—IS HAPPENING ALL THE TIME



ISN'T GOT THE DANGEROUS OPERATION GOING ON

...  
TOO MANY TO COUNT.



GOODNESS, I CAN'T WALK WITH YOU HANDS—



AH! D-DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

BUT LET'S GET OUT OF HERE ASAP.

I'M SORRY







NOT  
IN THE  
LOWER  
LEVELS,  
BUT  
FARTHER  
DOWN  
IN THE  
"DEEP  
ZONE"

A FLOOR  
BOSS...  
SHE  
SLEW A  
MONSTER  
REX ON  
HER  
OWN.



SHE WENT TO  
THE DEEP ZONE...

STRENGTH TAKE  
ALMOST BATTLE  
PARTY TO TAKE  
ONE OF THEM.  
THERE ARE THE  
KINGS OF THEIR  
FLOOR.

HOW MANY  
REMAIN...



BELL-  
KUN...

I AM  
NOT  
GUT



AH,  
SORRY...  
SPACED  
OUT  
FOR A  
SEC.

I'M  
GOING  
HOME.



HEY,  
BELL-  
KUN!  
WHERE  
YOU  
GOING  
TO?

HM,  
I DON'T  
THINK  
YOU  
NEED TO  
WORRY  
ABOUT  
THIS...





...THAT  
IS REALLY  
SHOCKING.

I PUT ON A  
STRONG FACE  
FOR SYNA-SAN,  
BUT...



NOW  
SHE'S  
EVEN  
FURTHER  
AWAY...



SHE  
WAS  
ALREADY  
SO FAR  
AHEAD  
OF ME  
...



SYN-  
SAN  
...?



—DELL—  
SANI  
I  
WANTED  
TO SEE  
YOU!





LEVELING  
UP...

HOW DO I  
RANK UP TO  
A HIGHER  
LEVEL?



DEFEAT  
AN ENEMY  
STRONGER  
THAN  
YOURSELF...

...AND  
ACQUIRE AN  
INCREDIBLE  
AMOUNT  
OF EXCELLENCE  
AT ONCE.



THAT  
IS THE  
REQUIRE-  
MENT.

...



YOU  
MUST DO  
SOME-  
THING  
GREAT.

SOMETHING  
SO GRAND  
THAT EVEN  
THE GODS  
CAN'T  
IGNORE.





FALSA FROM A GOD'S BLESSING ALLOWS THE SOUL TO GROW, BUT ONLY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE PROVEN THEMSELVES WORTHY.

LEVELING UP IS STRAIGHTFORWARD THE SOUL.

— OR OVERCOMING THE LIMITS OF THE CONTAINER.

IN SHORT, THEY HELP PREPARE YOU TO DO SOMETHING GREAT. NOTHING MORE.

YES.

THEN MY BASIC ABILITIES —?

A BATTLE PARTY IS NECESSARY IF YOU ARE SERIOUS ABOUT BECOMING STRONGER.

PLEASE KEEP THIS IN MIND.

MOST FORM A BATTLE PARTY TO DO SO.

OVERCOMING THAT DIS-ADVANTAGE IS FIRST TECHNIQUE AND THEN STRATEGY.

BUT WON'T I LOSE IF I TRY TO FIGHT SOMETHING STRONGER THAN ME...?

YOU ARE  
AN ADVENTURER.

FOR (CAMELLIA)  
F47

THIS MAY BE UNWANTED  
ADVICE  
BUT...

CAMELLIA-SAM

EVERY  
ADVENTURE  
HAS A  
MEANING.

DON'T LOSE  
SIGHT  
OF THEIR  
PURPOSE.

MOST  
LIKELY, WHAT  
YOU SEEK  
CANNOT BE  
OBTAINED  
WITHOUT  
PRESSING  
FORWARD.

MY  
INTUITION  
IS OFTEN  
WRONG.

...  
BUT  
NO...

PLEASE  
THINK  
NOTHING  
OF IT.

U-  
UM...





THE ADVENTURER ASSOCIATION

IT'S  
OKAY.

YOU'RE  
HELPING  
ME OUT  
TWO SO  
DON'T  
WORRY.



HELL-  
SAN,  
SORRY  
ABOUT  
TODAY...

THANK  
YOU SO  
MUCH!



DO YOU  
REALLY  
HAVE TO  
GO ON  
ADVEN-  
TURES?



...  
HEY,  
HELL-  
SAN.





THAT'S  
WHAT I'M  
TRYING  
TO SAY.



PLEASE  
DON'T DO  
ANYTHING  
RECKLESS.

ADVEN-  
TURERS  
MUST  
NOT  
GO ON  
ADVEN-  
TURES.

YOU  
ARE AN  
ADVEN-  
TURER.

THEIR  
WORDS  
OF ADVICE  
ARE  
POLAR  
OPPO-  
SITES IN  
EVERY  
WAY—



.....



I'M  
SORRY.  
SAYING  
STRANGE  
THINGS  
LIKE THAT.

...TO  
THINK  
I'D  
LOSE MY  
NERVE  
NOW  
OF ALL  
TIMES.



YOUR  
LUNCH  
WILL BE  
WAITING  
FOR YOU  
TOMOR-  
ROW.



TODAY  
IS OUR  
LAST...

YES...

THANK  
YOU FOR  
EVERY-  
THING.





....IT'S  
DEPRESSING  
TO THINK  
ABOUT—

THERE'S  
SO MUCH  
SPACE  
BETWEEN  
US THAT...



—HERE  
I  
COME.



—I WANT TO  
CATCH UP.



...THAT NEW  
HEIGHT!!



HEY! FLIP THE BOOK TO  
READ A SPECIAL, PREVIOUSLY  
UNPUBLISHED STORY STRAIGHT  
FROM FUJINO OMORI!





A PREVIOUSLY  
UNPUBLISHED  
STORY FROM  
FUJINO OMORI

 SPECIAL  
CHAPTER

# BROTHER SEPARATED FROM SISTER?

Story: Fujino Omori

Illustration: Sazuriko Yasuda

"Hey, Eina, that little brother of yours is really tearing it up!"

It was just past noon. Their lunch break was almost over.

Misha Frot walked over to her coworker Eina Tulle, who was behind the reception counter inside the Guild Headquarters' main lobby.

"Brother.....?"

"You know, your subordinate adventurer! White hair, red eyes, looks like a rabbit? Of course, other adventurers don't know who he is, but we've all noticed him!"

The two of them had been friends since their school days. Misha's light pink hair gently swished from side to side as she talked to her former classmate about the adventurer Bell Cranell.

Bell had been advancing at breakneck speed over the past month. His abilities had allowed him to progress to deeper and deeper floors much more quickly than normal.

Just as Misha said, the boy ought to still be a newbie, and yet his exploits were starting to get noticed.

"That boy, he's solo, right? There's no one else there to support him, but he just keeps going deeper...and now he's on the tenth floor! Everyone's really impressed, you know!"



The Guild kept information on every adventurer down to the lowliest newbie. Since every new detail was quickly recorded and organized, Guild employees tended to be the first to hear about individual adventurers' activities. Eina, however, was nowhere near as excited about Bell's progress as Misha was. In fact, her expression turned sour.

Bell's growth was much too fast, and she didn't know why. Eina had wanted the boy to venture into the Dungeon and gain experience, but his pace was making her more worried than happy for him.

She knew that sometimes it was easiest to fall into a trap in the Dungeon when everything was going smoothly.

"At this rate, he'll level up and pass the twelfth floor, moving into the middle levels in no time, don't you think?"

"—He's not going to the middle levels. I won't let him." Eina closed her eyes and quipped at her coworker's excitement. Misha was stunned into silence. Eina continued, her voice almost pathetically protective as she spoke.

"No matter how much stronger he gets, leveling up is a different story...Anyway, leveling up, middle levels, it's much too soon to talk about any of that. Bell takes too many risks as it is....."

Eina cast her eyes to the floor and recounted the events when he'd put himself in a lot of danger to save his supporter. Then she said, "In any case, I don't care if he does level up. I'm not letting him anywhere near the middle levels without a battle party."

Misha cracked a smile and said, "I feel like we've had this conversation before. But you know he'll join a party eventually. What would you do if he suddenly jumped from the thirteenth floor to the eighteenth? You'd get one heck of a bonus if he made it all the way down to the safe point, right?"

"Ab-ba-ha, no, no," Eina laughed to herself, saying that of course that wouldn't happen.

That's when *she* arrived.

The lobby suddenly got noisy. There were only a few adventurers and Guild employees present, but Eina couldn't help following their eyes to a figure standing at the lobby entrance.

Eina was just as surprised as the others to see flowing locks of golden hair that could rival goddesses' in their beauty.

The girl seemed to be looking for someone in particular. She caught Eina's eyes and quickly made her way to the reception desk.

"...Miss Wallenstein?"

The top-class adventurer Aiz Wallenstein planted her feet in front of the reception window and gave a brief greeting. "...Good morning."

Thanks to Reveria, Eina had met *Loki Familia's* star adventurer only a few days ago. However, she didn't know how she should respond and looked at the blond girl in confusion. Aiz, on the other hand, cut straight to the point.

"I, um, have something I'd like to...return to one of your subordinates..."

Eina tilted her head, but all became clear when Aiz held out a piece of armor toward her. It was an emerald-green vambrace wrapped in a white cloth. Eina had bought it for Bell after becoming concerned with his cheap armor less than a week earlier.

Aiz, a girl of few words, did her best to explain the situation. Eina had asked her to help Bell after he got mixed up in one of Lilly's problems; she found the vambrace on the tenth floor where Bell was being attacked by a group of orcs.

The blond girl had first met the boy during the Minotaur incident. She finished explaining their most recent encounter, placed her hand on her chest, and exhaled with a long "whew." A smile grew on Eina's lips as she looked at Aiz's expression. "Understood," she responded with a nod. "I'll give it to Bell...I will give the vambrace to Bell Cranell and inform him of the situation."

Misha picked up on the sudden change in tone and went back to her desk. Meanwhile, Aiz's face suddenly became firm—like she was working up courage but also nervous—as she opened her mouth to speak.

"Um....."

~~~~~

"...I'd like to...give it to him directly."

Aiz looked down as she revealed her true intention.

The Minotaur incident had caused him so much trouble, so she wanted to use this opportunity to return his vambrace as well as apologize—the boy always ran away like a scared rabbit whenever he saw her. She couldn't let this chance go to waste.

Aiz suddenly met Eina's gaze, the blond girl's eyes timid and uneasy. Eina adjusted her glasses before taking on a serious air and nodding once again.

"I understand. I would like to offer my cooperation as well."

~~~~~

"I will create a situation that he won't escape from, can't escape from, such that the two of you will be able to talk face-to-face."

She sounded almost like a parent, or perhaps like a protective older sister, as she made her suggestion.

"He has some nerve. I would like to extend an apology to you, Miss Wallenstein, on behalf of my very rude subordinate." A fretful Eina quickly apologized for all the times that Bell had disrespected her by running away. Aiz couldn't help but smile. The two young women smiled at each other before starting to discuss their plan.

"First, I will lure him into one of our consultation rooms. Then, you'll enter the room. You'll be able to talk when he doesn't have an escape route."

"Is this...okay? We'd be...tricking him."

"It's fine. Anything less won't work."

*Loki Familia* would soon embark on an expedition. So they decided to execute their plan to trap Bell in a consultation room before Aiz left. They were just about to choose the day when suddenly—

Eina happened to notice a figure coming toward the reception desk, behind Aiz.

Her shoulders shook. Aiz quickly turned around and saw who had arrived in the Guild lobby.

It was the white-haired boy, Bell Cranell.

"....."

"....."

"....."

*What timing...* Eina thought to herself as the three of them froze in place.

Bell turned his back on them almost instantly and made a break for the door.

"B-Bell! Stop right there!" Eina yelled at the boy who was flying through the lobby at full speed. However, he didn't look back.

—*Oh! What a pain!*

Eina's mind screamed out, but all she could do was watch him go. She quickly turned to Aiz and said, "Chase after him, Miss Wallenstein!"

A switch seemed to flip inside Aiz when she heard Eina's voice.

A moment later, the sword princess took off with enough vigor to leave Eina standing, stunned behind the counter, as she watched the girl pursue the rabbit with the ferocity of a hurricane.



"—Bell, the two of you need to talk, alone," Eina said to Bell after Aiz had captured him on the Guild's front lawn.

The boy's face went bright red. "Please stay here!" he squeaked in desperation.

"There are a lot of things that need to be said, so make sure you say them." On that strict note, Eina left Aiz and Bell by themselves.

She returned to the Guild lobby—but kept an eye on them through a window the entire time.

Her cheeks pulled back into a smile when she saw the boy thrust his head down into an unmistakable how.

"Eina, do you happen to have any brothers or sisters?"

Misha left her desk and joined Eina in front of the window. "...I do. A little sister." *What about it?* she asked with her eyes, and tilted her head.

Misha grinned. "You standing here watching him like that, it's like he's your little brother. That look in your eyes, it's like you can't just let him be. It's like that when you talk to him, too. Sometimes angry and worried, and sometimes gentle with a smile.

"Just like a big sister," she added.

Eina's eyes popped open a little wider. Misha giggled to herself before continuing.

"Are you sure it's okay to leave him alone out there?"

"....."

Eina looked back out the window in time to see a very nervous Bell turn an even deeper shade of red as Aiz smiled back at him.

Something about seeing them smiling together made her feel warm inside. Her next words seemed to drip out of her mouth.

"I'm sure...He can't be my little brother forever."

It was impossible for her to help him indefinitely.

No, that wasn't it. There would come a time when he would no longer depend on her, spreading his wings and taking off on his own.

After all, he was an adventurer.

Eina thought about that day in the future, the pride and joy she would feel, as well as the loneliness.

She was the one who, inevitably, would have to be separated from her "little brother" at some point.

Eina looked on with a hint of loneliness in her eyes as the boy, red-faced, mustered his courage and asked some favor of the girl.

"He can't just go on as your little brother, eh?...So you're saying that once he's properly grown, you'll have a go at him yourself?"

"Wha...? Misha!"

"My, my, how devious!"

Misha's teasing had hit home. Eina snapped back at her.

When the time for them to part did arrive, how would their relationship change?

Even as she scolded her coworker, the tips of Eina's ears turned red as the thought crossed her mind.



# TRANSLATION NOTES

## Common Honorifics

no honorific: Indicates familiarity or closeness; if used without permission or reason, addressing someone in this manner would constitute an insult.

-san: The Japanese equivalent of Mr./Mrs./Miss. If a situation calls for politeness, this is the fallback honorific.

-shi: Not unlike -san; the equivalent of Mr./Mrs./Miss but conveying a more official or bureaucratic mood.

-sama: Conveys great respect; may also indicate that the social status of the speaker is lower than that of the addressee.

-kun: Used most often when referring to boys, this indicates affection or familiarity. Occasionally used by older men among their peers, but it may also be used by anyone referring to a person of lower standing.

-chan: An affectionate honorific indicating familiarity used mostly in reference to girls; also used in reference to cute persons or animals of either gender.

## PAGE 73

Falnar: A god's blessing on the adventurers in their *Famula*, a *Falna* is tattooed on the back of every member and, like a character sheet in an RPG, is a record of experience and abilities accrued by the adventure while in the Dungeon.

## PAGE 106

Jyaga-maru-kun: Fried potato puffs





THANKS FOR PICKING UP A COPY OF THE FIFTH VOLUME IN THIS SERIES. THE ANIME SHOULD BE IN FULL SWING BY THE TIME THIS BOOK HITS THE SHELVES. AM I GET CHILLS EVERY TIME I SEE BELL AND MESTIA MOVING ON THE TV SCREEN. AS A FAN OF THE SERIES, I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT!

AIZO'S TRAINING SESSIONS WERE THE MAIN EVENTS OF THIS VOLUME. I REALLY ENJOYED DRAWING BELL AS HE GOT PROGRESSIVELY STRONGER EACH TIME. NEXT UP IS THE BATTLE WITH THE MINOTAUR. THIS IS GOING TO BE FUN!

I WANT TO DRAW BATTLES EPIC ENOUGH TO TRANSCEND THIS TWO-PAGE SPREAD UNTIL THE NEXT INSTALLMENT!

九二校  
MURAKAMI  
KUNEDA

# IS IT WRONG TO TRY TO PICK UP GIRLS IN A DUNGEON? ⑤

---

Fujino Omori  
Kunieda  
Suzuhito Yasuda

---

Translation: Andrew Gaipe      •      Lettering: Bradn Blakeslee

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This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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